TALK-TRACKER™

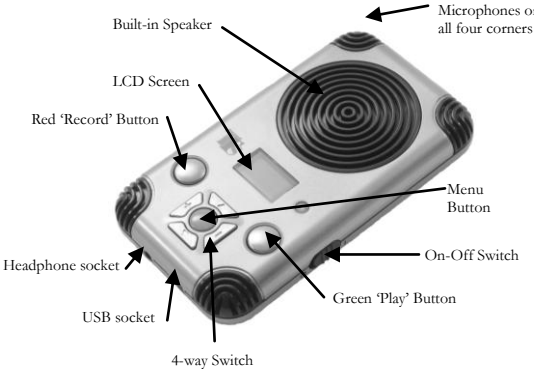
- ✓ Records children speaking in their natural environment
- ✓ The ideal teacher resource

USER GUIDE

Important Information

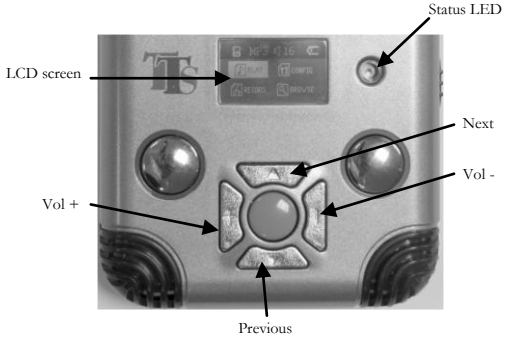
- Please retain these instructions for future reference
- Talk-Tracker contains a non-replaceable, rechargeable battery
- Do not attempt to remove the battery
- Do not allow your Talk-Tracker to come into contact with water or other liquids
- In the event of an electro-static discharge, your Talk-Tracker may malfunction. In this case, you may need to connect to a computer to reset it
- Warranty is void if the case is opened for any reason
- The warranty does not cover any data loss from the unit nor any consequential loss of information

Know your Talk-Tracker



Talk-Tracker controls

There are two sets of controls which are used to control the Talk-Tracker, The Record and Play Buttons and the 4 way switch and menu button.



Recording & Playing your First Track

- Switch on the Talk-Tracker by sliding the On-Off switch until the Status LED lights Orange (steady or flashing), indicating it is waiting in standby
- Press and release the Record button (Red ring). After a second or so, the Status LED will change to Red indicating it is recording
- The recording can be paused at any time by pressing the Record button briefly. The Status LED will flash to show the recording has been paused. Simply press the Record button again to continue recording

- When you are finished Recording, press the Record button, and **hold for 2 seconds,** to stop the recording and save it as the last track. The Status LED will change to Orange (steady or flashing)
- Alternatively you can press and hold the Record button during the whole of the recording and release it when you have finished recording
- Press the Play button (Green ring) to play your track. The Status LED will light Green while the track is playing
- When the track is finished, Talk-Tracker will return to standby and the Status LED will be Orange
- The Talk-Tracker will not store recordings of less than 2 seconds, so ensure you record for longer than this
- Please note that the Talk-Tracker can only store a maximum of sixty two tracks, regardless of the length of track.

Recording & Playback Modes

Talk-Tracker can record and playback files in two formats: MP3 or WAV files. Depending on your application, you may want to use one of these formats rather than another. For instance, much podcasting is done using MP3 files so this would be the best format if you wanted to make podcasts. For information on recording lengths for both formats see page 15.

Status LED

The Status LED provides you with a clear indication of what is happening with your Talk-Tracker. Please take note of the following information so that you can get the best results.

- Flashing Orange: Ready to Play/Record MP3 file
- Steady Orange: Ready to Play/Record WAV file
- Steady Green: Playing (or fully charged)
- Flashing Green: Playing Paused

- Steady Red: Recording
- Flashing Red: Recording Paused
- Flashing Red/Green: Charging
- Flashing Orange/Green: Battery low

Pausing or Stopping a Track

- Press the Play button (Green ring) to play a track. The Status LED will shine steady Green
- Press the Play button again to pause the track at the current place. The status LED will flash Green
- Press the Play button again to resume playback
- To stop a playing track completely, press and hold the Play button for 2 seconds

Fast Forward & Reverse

- While a track is Playing or Paused…
- Press and hold the Prev(ious) or Next track button on the 4-way rocker switch
- The Status LED will flash Green and will move within the current track at a fast rate
- When the button is released, Play or Pause will continue at the new position within the track
- The Play position will not pass beyond the start or end of the current track

Moving Between Tracks

- While a track is Playing or Paused…
- Press the Prev(ious) or Next track button on the 4-way rocker to move to the selected track

Charging the Battery

Talk-Tracker is supplied with a partially charged battery and can be used immediately without charging first. It is recommended that the Talk-Tracker is full charged before its first use, or before storage. The battery can be charged by connecting to the USB port of an active computer. No software is required:

- Connect Talk-Tracker to the USB port
- The Status LED will flash Red and Green
- When Talk-Tracker is fully charged the Status LED will change to steady Green
- A complete charge of a fully discharged battery will take about 4 hours
- Do not put a discharged battery into storage for long periods of time. It is recommended that the product is charged before storage.

Using the Menu System

The LCD on the Talk-Tracker provides a multi-level menu system that allows you to select certain configurations, manage the sound files and select recording and playback functions.

The display comprises two separate parts: the status area at the top in Yellow and the selection area at the bottom in Blue.

Standby Screen

The Standby screen is the first screen shown when the Talk-Tracker is switched on. The status shown here is:

01/07 active track is number 1 out of 7 tracks

repeat mode setting is repeat

MP3 record/playback mode is MP3

17 volume is set to 17

battery is fully charged

Playback Screen

During playback, the central part of the screen shows the name of the track currently playing.

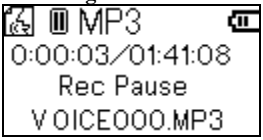
001
024 playing track 1 of 24

00:06
00:39 now 6 seconds into a 39 second track

playing track

playing is paused

Recording Screen



MP3 Recording in MP3 mode

WAV Recording in WAV mode

recording track

recording is paused

battery 50% full

Config Menu

Selecting the item from the standby screen, displays a menu of configuration settings:

Rec	Recording mode: MP3 or WAV
Backlight	Defines the length of time backlight is on after the last keypress. Press any key to switch the backlight back on.
Language	Select from the available languages for the menu system. Note that this does not change the standby screen
System Info	Displays firmware version and available memory

Browse Menu

Selecting the item from the standby screen displays the files and folders internal to the Talk-Tracker.

When you select a folder, the display changes to show the files and sub-folders within the selected folder. Select "Parent Folder" to go back one level.

When you select a file, you can then choose whether to Play the selected file or Delete it.

Connecting to a PC or Apple Mac

- Switch off the Talk-Tracker
- Plug the Talk-Tracker into an available USB socket using the USB lead provided
- The first time Talk-Tracker is connected to the PC, it will automatically install the drivers and may require the PC to be rebooted depending on your operating system
- The PC or Mac will recognise the device as a USB mass storage device and it will appear as a removable drive in the file explorer window

- The tracks you have recorded will appear in the folder MIC_REC. Use this same folder to copy MP3 or WAV files to for playback on Talk-Tracker
- You can delete from, add files to, or format the Talk-Tracker directly from the computer if you wish

Installing & Using Audacity

- **Audacity is provided with Talk-Tracker for your convenience. TTS do not support it or provide any warranty for its use. It is not part of the Talk-Tracker product**
- Audacity is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It is available for Mac OS/X, Microsoft Windows, GNU/Linux and other operating systems
- Connect Talk-Tracker to the PC or Mac and browse to the Audacity folder (contains release 1.2.6)
- For Windows, run the file *audacitywin.exe*
- For Mac OS/X (PPC), run *audacitymac.dmg*
- You may find it easiest to copy the folder to your PC or Mac before doing this
- Instructions, latest versions for all operating systems and licence information for Audacity can be found at http://audacity.sourceforge.net

Technical specification

- Records directly into MP3 or WAV file format
- 128MB of flash memory, up to 4 hours recording
- MP3: Bit rate: 128 kbps (44kHz sampling)
  Max time: Approx 2 hours
- WAV: Format: IMA ADPCM
  Bit rate: 64 kbps (4 bits per sample)
  Max time: Approx 4 hours

- For maximum recording time, delete the Audacity and User manual folders to give additional memory space
- Built-in 380mAH Lithium-ion battery
- Battery supplied partially charged (50%-90%)
- Loud-speaker and four microphones
- One stereo 3.5mm headphone socket
- Power consumption:
  75mA standby, 100mA recording
  80-120mA playback (depending on volume)
- Battery life approx 3 hours of recording or playback
- Size: 135mm long, 75mm Wide, 23mm height

Troubleshooting

Talk-Tracker is designed to work reliably and predictably in all normal conditions. However, it is possible that problems may occur. Please check the following before contacting technical support:

Problem	**Status LED appears to flash randomly**
Solution	Battery is low. Charge the battery
Problem	**Missing Start or End of Recording**
Solution	Talk-Tracker automatically fades in and out of recording & playback. Ensure you leave a second or two at start and end
Problem	**Files corrupt or buttons don't work**
Solution	Format the drive in Windows (use the FAT format, not FAT32)
Problem	**LED flashes Red during Record**
Solution	Memory is full. Delete some files
Problem	**Some tracks do not appear to play**
Solution	Probably because they are in the alternative format. Try swapping between MP3 and WAV formats

Problem	Status LED doesn't come on
Solution	Battery completely flat. Recharge

Support & Warranty

This product is provided with a one-year warranty for problems found during normal usage. Mistreating the Talk-Tracker™ or opening the unit will invalidate this warranty. Any data stored on the unit and any consequential loss is not covered by this warranty. The battery is not user replaceable.

All out of warranty repairs will be subject to a replacement fee.

Please visit **www.tts-group.co.uk** for latest product information.

Email **feedback@tts-group.co.uk** for technical support.

TTS Group Ltd
Park Lane Business Park
Kirkby-in-Ashfield
Nottinghamshire
NG17 9GU
United Kingdom
+44(0)800 318 686

WARNING: Do not dispose of this product in household waste. Hand it over to a collection point for recycling electronic appliances.

Product Code: EL00110 TTS Talk Tracker

Made in China

WARNING! Not suitable for children under 36 months due to small parts – choking hazard.